

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A routing and switching apparatus comprising:

a switching fabric;

a matrix of switching elements and routing elements arranged in a CLOS architecture, at least one of said switching elements being connected to at least one of said routing elements by said switching fabric; and

router control providing control for said switching fabric,

wherein said apparatus has both cross-connect functionality and routing functionality.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said apparatus can support ~~GMPLS~~ generalized multi-protocol label switching.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said apparatus further comprises an ~~IP-based~~ internet-protocol-based layer-3 virtual router.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said apparatus can provide layer-3 ~~VPN~~ virtual private network services.

5. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said apparatus can perform layer-3 forwarding via a network processor.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4 wherein said apparatus can exist both physically and virtually ~~with-in~~ within a particular network.

7. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4 further comprising a router capable of forwarding packets according to a label switching algorithm.

8-20 (cancelled)